



News from

# Congressman Ron Kind

REPRESENTING WISCONSIN'S THIRD  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

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## Kind Opposes Irresponsible Budget Plan that Worsens Federal Bottom Line, Threatens Vital Services & Cuts Student Aid

*Cuts to Student Aid, Medicaid, & MILC in Exchange for Tax Breaks for the Rich*

**Washington, DC** – U.S. Rep. Ron Kind (D-WI), a member of the House Budget Committee, voted against a Republican budget plan that includes deep cuts to vital government services and a tax plan that worsens the federal deficit. The controversial budget bill, which passed the House 217-215 in the dead of the night, cuts net mandatory spending by \$50 billion over five years and paves the way for at least \$70 billion in new tax cuts targeted to the wealthiest Americans. The complete budget reconciliation package, which includes both the spending and tax cut bills, increases the federal deficit by \$20 billion.

Among the biggest cuts in the budget bill are \$14.3 billion to student loans, \$11.4 billion to Medicaid, and \$7 billion to programs providing child care and energy assistance (LIHEAP) to working families and vulnerable individuals. The bill also excludes funding for net Milk Income Loss Contract (MILC), the important dairy farmer safety-net.

“Putting our nation’s fiscal house in order is a top priority for me, but instead of reducing the deficit, this budget plan worsens it,” stated Rep. Kind. “Furthermore, with deep cuts to student loans, Medicaid, and important rural programs such as MILC, this budget places an undue burden on those who need help the most and has dire consequences for students, seniors, farmers, and the working poor.”

A large portion of the cuts - \$14.3 billion - comes from college student aid. As a result, student borrowers will face newly imposed fees and increased interest rates on student loans. The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office estimates that this will cost the average student borrower up to an additional \$5,800 more for his or her loans.

“The midnight raid on student aid is the biggest cut ever made to federal student aid. Now is the time strengthen our commitment to students and keep our country strong for generations to come,” stated Rep. Kind, a member of the House Education and the Workforce Committee. “Increasing the burden on student borrowers at a time when more and more people are opting not go to college because of the high cost of higher education is bad policy that fails to ensure the growth of our economy or helps us stay competitive in the global marketplace.”

